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Title: Need to expedite the gauge conversion work of railway Line from Lumding to Agartala in Tripura--Laid.

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SHRI KHAGEN DAS (TRIPURA-WEST): I would like to draw the attention of the Government that the people of Tripura had been fighting for more than sixty years for extension of Railways from Kumarghat to Agartala. As a result, in the current year, Agartala, the capital of Tripura has been connected by Railway. In order to achieve full and complete integration with the Railway network in the country, there is an urgent need to convert railway line from meter gauge to broad gauge from Lumding to Agartala. But the progress of conversion work from Lumding to Badarpur, Badarpur-Baraigram-Kumarghat and Lumding Shilchar sector is far behind the schedule and the people of North East particularly the people of Barrack valley and Tripura are getting utterly frustrated due to its tardy progress. I, therefore, strongly urge upon the Government to take immediate measures to complete the conversion work within the scheduled time-frame.